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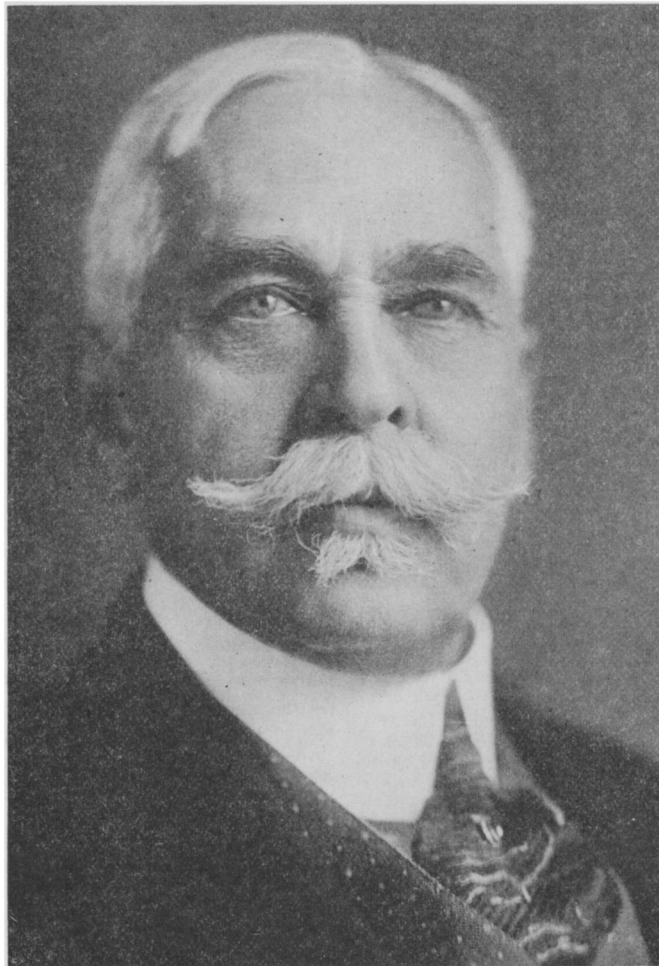
THE AMERICAN PEACE SOCIETY'S EIGHTY-NINTH BIRTHDAY

THE AMERICAN PEACE SOCIETY is at least eighty-nine years old. It may be one hundred two years old; about this it is not quite clear. The New York Peace Society began August 16, 1815, and in May, 1828, "Resolved to be merged in the American Peace Society," which "was substituted in its place." It was at that time that the American Peace Society was "formally organized." Perhaps modesty makes it necessary for it to confess that it is only eighty-nine years old. Let it stand. Whatever its age, it considers itself old enough to be honorable and fit for counsel. It is willing to accept the Hebrew poet's statement that youth is a "garland of roses," but it refuses to follow him to the extent of looking upon itself as wearing a "crown of thorns" because of its age. It does look upon itself to be old enough, however, to assume the right of talking about itself, so long as it stops short of garrulity.

It celebrated its minimum birthday in Washington, Saturday, May 19. The men participating in the event were: Dr. George W. Kirchwey, New York City; Arthur Deerin Call, William Knowles Cooper, Justice Frederick L. Siddons, and Jackson H. Ralston,

Washington, D. C.; Samuel T. Dutton, New York City; Wilbur F. Gordy, Hartford, Conn.; J. J. Hall, Atlanta, Ga.; Hon. Walter L. Hensley, of Missouri; Jay T.

Stocking, Upper Montclair, N. J.; Frank F. Williams, Esq., Buffalo, N. Y.; James L. Tryon, Boston, Mass.; Henry C. Morris, Esq., and Harold G. Townsend, Esq., Chicago, Ill.; Allan Farquhar, Sandy Springs, Md.; Hon. James L. Slayden, San Antonio, Texas; J. Edgar Rhoads, Wilmington, Del.; Peter Ainslee, Baltimore, Md., and F. E. Wharton, Greensboro, N. C. The Committee on Resolutions were: Messrs. Ralston, Gordy, Wharton, Call and Townsend. The Committee on Nominations were: Messrs. Dutton, Siddons, Morris, Williams and Tryon. President Kirchwey supplemented the statement, appearing elsewhere in these columns, with an account of his connections with Messrs. Bernstorff and Ritter immediately following the severance of diplomatic relations between this country and Germany, an account of which we hope to print later in the columns of the *Advocate of Peace*. The Secretary's report appears elsewhere in these columns. At the lunch-



HON. JAMES L. SLAYDEN

ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN PEACE SOCIETY, MAY 19, 1917

Resident of San Antonio, Texas; Member of Congress since 1897; President, American group of the *Interparliamentary Union*, since February 24, 1915; member Executive Committee of the *American Association for International Conciliation*; Trustee, *Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*.

Since David Low Dodge, of New York City, presided at the first Annual Meeting of this Society, in 1829, the Presidents have been: Rev. John Codman, Dorchester, Mass., 1830-1831; Hon. S. V. S. Wilder,* New York City, 1831-1837; William Ladd, founder of this Society, 1838-1840; Samuel E. Coues, Portsmouth, N. H., 1841-1846; Anson G. Phelps, New York City, 1847; Hon. William Jay, New York, 1848-1858; Dr. Francis Wayland, Providence, R. I., 1859-1861; Dr. Howard Malcolm, Boston, 1862-1872; Hon. Edward S. Tobey, Boston, 1873-1891; Hon. Robert Treat Paine, Boston, 1892-1910; Hon. Theodore E. Burton, Cleveland, Ohio, 1911-1915; Dr. George W. Kirchwey, New York City, 1916.

* Presided at annual meetings, Mr. Ladd being the real head of the Society.

con the Directors freely discussed the present war situation and the duties of the Society at the present. The plans for holding a Sixth American Peace Congress were indefinitely postponed. Arrangements were made for changing the Constitution of the Society in cooperation, as far as possible, with the various divisions, sections, and affiliated societies. Dr. Kirchwey withdrawing his name from consideration by the Committee on Nominations, Congressman James L. Slayden was elected President of the Society, without salary. By vote of the Directors, Messrs. Siddons and Gordy prepared the following resolution in appreciation of the services of Dr. Kirchwey as President of the Society:

"In the withdrawal of Dr. Geo. W. Kirchwey from the Presidency of the American Peace Society, the Board of Directors desire to record their appreciation of his long-continued devotion and services to the cause of permanent international peace, to their confidence in him as a man and a citizen, and their esteem for his qualities of heart and mind that insure at all times courage and steadfastness in the assertion and maintenance of high principles of action."

The Committee on Resolutions submitted the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

"The Board of Directors of the American Peace Society at its 89th annual meeting held in Washington, D. C., May 19, 1917, record with profound satisfaction the affirmation by the President of the United States in his various addresses to the Congress of the faith and principles in harmony with those of the American Peace Society.

"We heartily approve of his high stand in behalf of a governed world to the end that wars may ultimately cease; that international differences may be adjusted by reason rather than by force, and that the peace of justice may prevail."

It is comforting to report that the work of the American Peace Society continues to meet with the approval of its supporters. The Executive Committee of the *Carnegie Endowment for International Peace* has unanimously continued a subvention of \$20,000 for the promotion of its tasks during the coming year. The Trustees of the *Permanent Peace Fund* in Boston, after careful investigation, show their approval by continuing their grant of the income from that "Fund" to the treasury of this Society, a sum amounting last year to \$3,723.80.

The fact remains, however, that the Society's income is insufficient for extension work. On its present resources it can only repeat the activities of last year, and that in a restricted way. The Society needs more money. Its invested funds, after all these years, amount only to \$14,700.00. Much of these funds were raised through the activities and foresight of Dr. Benjamin F. Trueblood, Secretary of this Society for over two decades. These funds should be increased to the size of an endowment, and known as the *Trueblood Endowment*. There are many persons of financial standing who would agree to this, and contribute, if only they understood. No opportunity for investing money in a great enterprise

exceeds the opportunity to place above the "woe of want" the great work of the American Peace Society.

Eighty-nine years of age, the American Peace Society enters upon another year, its record clean, its purposes undaunted. It has stood for the enduring things, and the world will yet come to its view. The destruction, so devastating, world-wide, and appalling, is waged in the name of the very principles for which it has pleaded consistently and for so long. As it faces its four-score-and-ten, the American Peace Society can say, as does Adam to Orlando:

"Though I look old, yet I am strong and lusty;
For in youth I never did apply
Hot and rebellious liquors in my blood;
Nor did not with unbashful forehead woo
The means of weakness and debility;
Therefore my age is a lusty winter,
Frosty, but kindly."

STICKING TO OUR LAST

WE have been greatly encouraged by the evidences of approval of the May number of this magazine. Since its appearance, the subscription renewals and new subscriptions show a marked increase—a fact which is most gratifying at a time when gratifications are not so plentiful for us. A few of our readers, however, are finding it difficult to commend our support of the Government. We are sorry for this. These critics seem to be congenitally unable to qualify in any way the terms "peace" and "pacifist." They seem to assume that war is war and peace is peace, "and never the twain shall meet." They seem to feel that no pacifist can support our Government in any entrance upon a war. That is the gravamen of the charge against us. Some are showing their opposition by holding mass-meetings "to discuss terms of peace." They are opposed to "compulsory military training" and service, and purpose to say so. They aim to uphold "freedom of conscience," and to support "conscientious objectors." They are out to defend our "constitutional rights" of freedom of speech, and to work for the "democratization of the diplomacy of the United States," including the principle of "referendum," before declarations of war, and before concluding alliances with foreign nations. They are quite of the opinion that if this war is a people's war, the people must know upon what terms it will be stopped.

It is neither our purpose to oppose these people and their views, nor to spend time in mere defense of ourselves. We are willing, however, to restate briefly from time to time the gist of our program, which we aim to keep from degenerating into merely a "Program." It is our duty to do so. To this end we are constantly striving to make clear, we repeat, that the sole aim of the